

Status of All Claims in the Application:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[48]] 72 wherein the step of engaging the game pieces occurs when the first game piece occupies the same designated position as the second game piece.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[44]] 62 wherein the game is played by a first player and a second player, and wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes the first player and the second player moving the engaged game pieces to cause the deformation in one of the game pieces.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[44]] 62 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes rotating one of the engaged game pieces relative to the other engaged game piece.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[44]] 62 wherein the step of moving the first game piece includes providing a first break-off key, and the step of moving the second game piece includes providing a second break-off key.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[44]] 62 further comprising the steps of the first player providing a first set of game pieces that includes the first deformable game piece and the second player providing a second set of game pieces that includes the second deformable game piece.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[24]] 69 further comprising the steps of arranging the game pieces from the first set on the playing surface and arranging the game pieces from the second set on the playing surface.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25 further comprising the step of the alternately moving one of the game pieces from the first set and moving one of the game pieces from the second set.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 further comprising the step of engaging one of the pieces from the first set with one of the pieces from the second set whenever one game piece from each set occupies the same designated position on the playing surface.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 further comprising the step of the first player winning the game by engaging and deforming the second king with one of the game pieces from the first set.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[29]]~~ 72 wherein the step of providing the second set of game pieces includes providing game pieces that each has a specific pattern of movement.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 72 wherein the step of providing a first set of game pieces includes providing five game pieces, and wherein the step of providing the second set of game pieces includes providing five game pieces.

32-44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[44]]~~ 62 wherein the step of moving the first deformable game piece includes the playing surface having a central row of designated positions, the central row being centrally positioned on the playing surface.

46. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[44]]~~ 62 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a temporary deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[44]]~~ 62 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a permanent deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 72 further comprising the step of removing the deformed game piece from the game.

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 72 wherein the game is played by a first player and a second player, and wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes the first player and the second player moving the engaged game pieces to cause the deformation in one of the game pieces.

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 72 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes rotating one of the engaged game pieces relative to the other engaged game piece.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 72 wherein the step of moving the first game piece includes providing a first break-off key, and the step of moving the second game piece includes providing a second break-off key.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[48]]~~ 72 wherein the step of moving the first deformable game piece includes the playing surface having a central row of designated positions, the central row being centrally positioned on the playing surface.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[48]] 72 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a temporary deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

55. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[48]] 72 wherein the step of moving the engaged game pieces includes causing a permanent deformation of one of the engaged game pieces.

56-61. (Canceled)

62. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player, the method comprising the steps of:

moving a first deformable game piece along a playing surface having a plurality of designated positions;

moving a second deformable game piece along the playing surface;

engaging the first game piece with the second game piece when the game pieces occupy the same designated position as one another on the playing surface; and

moving the engaged game pieces relative to each other to cause a deformation of one of the engaged game pieces; and

removing the deformed game piece from the playing surface.

63. (New) The method of claim 62 further comprising the steps of the first player providing a first set of deformable game pieces that includes the first deformable game piece and selecting one of the game pieces in the first set to be a first king, and a second player providing a second set of deformable game pieces that includes the second deformable game piece and selecting one of the game pieces in the second set to be a second king.

64. (New) The method of claim 63 further comprising the step of the first

player winning the game by causing deformation of the second king during engagement of the second king with one of the deformable game pieces from the first set.

65. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein each of the deformable game pieces of the first set has a predetermined pattern of movement along the playing surface.

66. (New) The method of claim 65 wherein at least two of the deformable game pieces of the first set have different predetermined patterns of movement along the playing surface.

67. (New) The method of claim 62 wherein the first set of deformable game pieces are substantially similarly configured relative to one another.

68. (New) The method of claim 62 further comprising the step of arranging at least one of the sets of game pieces on the playing surface prior to commencement of the game.

69. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player and a second player, the method comprising the steps of:

- the first player providing a first set of game pieces that includes a first deformable game piece and selecting one of the game pieces in the first set to be a first king;

- the second player providing a second set of game pieces that includes a second deformable game piece and selecting one of the game pieces in the second set to be a second king;

- moving a first deformable game piece along a playing surface having a plurality of designated positions;

- moving a second deformable game piece along the playing surface;

- engaging the first game piece with the second game piece; and

- moving the engaged game pieces relative to each other to cause a

deformation in one of the engaged game pieces.

70. (New) The method of claim 69 further comprising the step of removing the deformed game piece from the playing surface.

71. (New) The method of claim 69 wherein at least two of the deformable game pieces of the first set have different predetermined patterns of movement along the playing surface from one another.

72. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player and a second player, the method comprising the steps of:

- the first player providing a first set of game pieces that includes a first deformable game piece, each of the game pieces having a specific pattern of movement along a playing surface;

- the second player providing a second set of game pieces that includes a second deformable game piece;

- moving a first deformable game piece along the playing surface that has a plurality of designated positions;

- moving a second deformable game piece along the playing surface;

- engaging the first game piece with the second game piece; and

- moving the engaged game pieces relative to each other to cause a deformation in one of the engaged game pieces.

73. (New) The method of claim 72 wherein the step of providing the first set includes each of the first set of game pieces having a substantially similar configuration relative to one another.

74. (New) A method for playing a game with a first player and a second player, the method comprising the steps of:

- the first player providing a first set of deformable game pieces that are substantially similarly configured relative to one another;

the second player providing a second set of game pieces that are substantially similarly configured relative to one another;

moving a first deformable game piece from the first set along a playing surface having a plurality of designated positions;

moving a second deformable game piece from the second set along the playing surface;

engaging the first deformable game piece with the second deformable game piece; and

moving the engaged deformable game pieces relative to each other to cause a deformation in one of the engaged deformable game pieces.

75. (New) The method of claim 74 further comprising the step of removing the deformed game piece from the game.

76. (New) The method of claim 74 wherein the step of engaging the deformable game pieces occurs when the first deformable game piece occupies the same designated position on the playing surface as the second deformable game piece.

77. (New) The method of claim 74 wherein the step of moving the engaged deformable game pieces includes each of the players simultaneously moving the engaged deformable game pieces to cause the deformation in one of the deformable game pieces.

78. (New) The method of claim 74 wherein the step of providing a first set of game pieces includes selecting one of the deformable game pieces of the first set to have different movement rules from the remaining game pieces in the first set, and wherein the step of providing a second set of game pieces includes selecting one of the deformable game pieces of the second set to have different movement rules from the remaining game pieces in the second set.

79. (New) The method of claim 78 further comprising the step of the first player winning the game by engaging and deforming the game piece having different movement rules from the second set with one of the deformable game pieces from the first set.

80. (New) The method of claim 74 further comprising the steps of arranging the game pieces from the first set on the playing surface prior to deformation of any of the game pieces, and arranging the game pieces from the second set along the playing surface prior to deformation of any of the game pieces.